







**Op-Ed:        Incentives for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers**

By Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (South Dakota) and Rep. Tim Walz (Minnesota)

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American agriculture has a dramatic shift waiting for it in the near future: in the next

Those statistics are startling, and lead to the realization that we need to do more to



As members of the House Agriculture Committee representing South Dakota and I

Beginning farmers and ranchers have different needs than more established produ

Starting with the 1990 Farm Bill, Congress has created programs to help beginning

This year, as we craft the 2007 Farm Bill, we recognize that we have a unique opp

Our bill contains provisions to improve the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Down P

Further, our bill establishes a competitive grant program to support research and e

Increasingly, the heartland is not only America's breadbasket - it's also a major en